

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are all the claims pending in the application. New claims 9-14 have been added to further define the invention. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claim 7 under §102(b) as being anticipated by the prior art discussed on page 1 of the present specification, i.e., JP 2000-337987 (hereinafter the APA). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the APA fails to disclose all of the elements as set forth and arranged in the claim.

Claim 7 sets forth, *inter alia*, a sensor element, a control element, a power supply element, a terminal having the control element and the power supply element mounted thereon for outputting a signal from the power supply element to the outside, and a resin body.

For example, as shown in Fig. 6, one embodiment consistent with that set forth in claim 7 is a sensor element 3, a control element 6, a power supply element 7, a terminal 70 having the control element 6 and the power supply element 7 mounted thereon for outputting a signal from the power supply element to the outside, and a resin body 71. With this arrangement, the terminal plays the role of the lead frame so that such a lead frame is unnecessary, thus making it possible to omit a process of welding the lead frame and the terminal with each other. Accordingly, the number of component parts can be reduced, and workability or manufacturing efficiency can also be improved. See, for example, the present specification at: page 8, 3rd full paragraph; and the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3.

In contrast to that set forth in claim 7, the APA discloses a control element, a power supply element, and “a lead frame having the control element and the power supply element mounted thereon”. See, for example, the present specification at page 1, lines 13-14. See also, JP 2000-337987 (hereinafter JP ‘987) Figs. 1 and 2, for example, wherein signal processing

section 18 and sensor element 13 are mounted to a lead frame 17, which, in turn, is connected to a terminal 12 at joint 25. Thus, in the APA, the control element and power supply element are not mounted on the terminal 12.

For at least any of the above reasons, the APA fails to anticipate claim 7.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected claim 8 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over the APA. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the APA fails to teach or suggest all the elements as set forth and arranged in the claim.

As noted above, the APA fails to teach or suggest a power supply and a control element mounted on a terminal. The Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to modify the APA so as to integrate the control element, power supply and terminal by whatever welding, bonding or molding techniques are readily available. However, such reasoning does not provide the requisite motivation, teaching or suggestion to mount the power supply and control element on the terminal. Accordingly, for the sake of argument alone, even assuming that one of ordinary skill in the art were motivated to modify the APA as suggested by the Examiner, any such modification would still not include a power supply and a control element mounted on a terminal, as set forth in claim 8, which includes all the elements of claim 7 by virtue of its dependency.

For at least any of the above reasons, the APA fails to render obvious Applicants' claim 8.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-6 are allowed. Applicants have amended claim 6 only so as to remove the improper multiple dependency. The subject matter of claim 6 has been rewritten to depend from claims 3 and 4 as new claims 9 and 10. Accordingly, claims 1-6, 9, and 10, should be in condition for immediate allowance.

New Claims

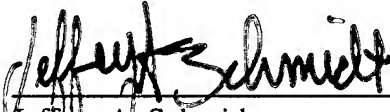
New claims 9-14 have been added to further define the present invention. As noted above, claims 9 and 10 include the subject matter of claim 6 and, therefore, should be allowable at least for the same reasons as was claim 6. New claims 11-14 depend from claim 7 and, therefore, are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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